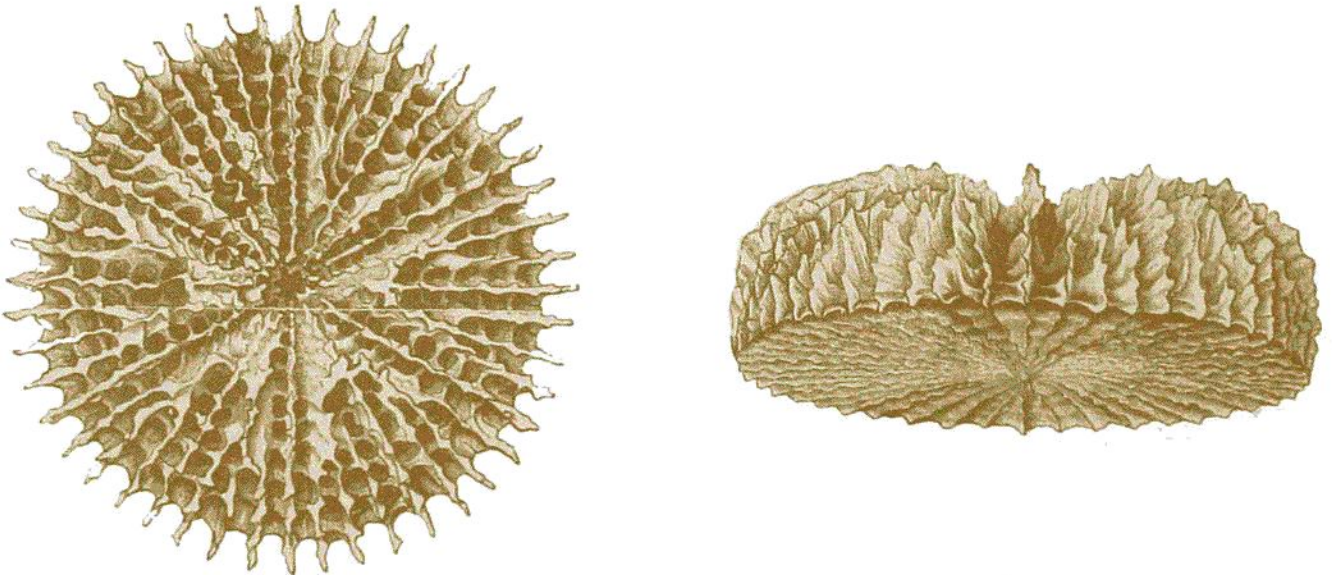


identical with *Bathyactis symmetrica*. If so, the name *Fungiacyathus* will take priority. *Fungiacyathus fragilis* agrees with *Bathyactis symmetrica* in all respects excepting that it has no synapticulæ. In some of the Challenger specimens there are very few synapticulæ indeed, but in none are these structures entirely absent. I therefore hesitate to place the two forms together at present. There can be little doubt that they are closely allied, and what little I have seen of the soft parts of *Bathyactis symmetrica* goes to confirm such an opinion.

*Bathyactis symmetrica*, Moseley (Pl. X. figs. 1-13; 1a-13a).

*Fungia symmetrica*, Pourt., Deep-Sea Corals, p. 46, pl. vii. figs. 5, 6.

This coral was dredged by the Challenger in all parts of the world. It varies very much in size and appearance, the smallest specimens obtained measuring 3 mm., and the largest 40 mm. in diameter: the increase in size being evidently not a matter of age and growth so much as of different development under different conditions. A specimen



*Bathyactis symmetrica* (Moseley).

Three times the natural size. Dredged west of Tristan da Cunha Island, from 1900 fathoms. Station 133.

measuring only 5 mm. in diameter has already its full amount of septa. In Pourtalès' specimens, the number of zones of synapticulæ were from four to six. In the very largest specimens they only number about eight. I have figured a long series of specimens on Plate XI., in order to show the various forms assumed. The inspection of the series leaves no doubt as to the identity of the large specimens with the small ones. The very large specimens are excessively thin and fragile, and only a small percentage of them were obtained in an unbroken condition. In some specimens dredged on a siliceous bottom composed of diatom skeletons, the wall is excessively thin and,